



Dear Parents & Carers,

...making a difference in God's world, our vision says. Our pupils have certainly made a difference to others' lives this week, by collecting produce for our Harvest Festival, going to Andover Food Bank. This morning, Kevin and Anne (right) from the organisation delivered a presentation to the children about the work of the Food Bank and the difference that the collected produce would make. Thank you for supporting your children in collecting for those less fortunate than themselves.



We are nearly through the first half of term. Just a reminder that we have our **class celebrations** next week (see calendar below) and our parent/carer appointment evenings.

We are looking forward to talking with you about your children's progress. Whilst in school for your appointment(s), why not check out the Scholastic Book Fair, which we will be holding in the library during the evening? There will be a great selection of reasonably-priced books which can be purchased.



Lastly, our clubs are now live for signing up, via Arbor. There are some great sporty and arty opportunities (see below). I am also running a monthly Book Club for able readers in Year 5&6- please drop me a line, if your child is interested in joining.

Happy Friday!

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	Love	Courage	Trust
Oak			Isaac R
Willow			Aslan F-G
Sycamore			Oskar K
Maple		Elaina Y	
Hazel	Rowan W		
Lime			Luna F
Elm			Alexander D
Ash			Faye W
Beech			Oliver C
Pine			Dylan W
Hawthorn		Eila F	
Aspen	Ziva B		
Juniper	Gina L		

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

Regardless of the rain, the children have had a lovely time outside, it has been much chillier this week, so it is beginning to feel much more autumnal.

We have started the story of "The Three Little Pigs" and the children have loved role-playing being the pigs or the wolf. They have been using the phrases accurately to re-tell the story which has been wonderful to see! In Maths we have been subitising, which means you look at a picture of an amount of objects and know how many there are without counting. We taught the children a game of looking at the objects, hiding them under a blanket and then the children tell you how many there were.

The children have been moving their learning on from cars to planes and trains. They have built them using multilink blocks and out of paper.

Well done Year R, you have nearly completed a full half term at school!!

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure.

Sycamore & Maple

What an action-packed week we have had in Year 1!

In Maths, the children have been busy learning how to add numbers within 10, whilst in English, they have been putting the finishing touches to their wonderful retellings of *Old Bear*.

In Explore and Learn, we have been treated to some fantastic performances, with the children using their understanding of pulse and syllables in Music. In RE, it has been lovely to hear the children's thoughts and ideas about how the world began, whilst in PSHE, we have been exploring different emotions and discussing how we might feel and react in different situations.

The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm and engagement in their learning this week, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. We are looking forward to a wonderful final week of the half-term together next week!

Miss Miners and Mrs Bryan

Lime & Hazel

This week in Year 2 we started a new English Learning Journey with the book *A River* by Marc Martin. We really enjoyed stepping into the illustrations to experience the places the character sailed past. We even came up with our own theories about if it actually happened or if it was all just a dream!

We loved being able to explore the rainforest setting through our Dance unit in PE too. In Maths we carried on measuring in many different forms - we've used measuring jugs and thermometers this week, learning how to read the different scales as well as understanding capacity and volume.

We learnt more about how animals depend on each other and plants in Science this week, exploring food chains that happen in different habitats. We rounded out the week by making some abstract maps in Art using cellophane to make them look like stained-glass windows.

See you next week for our class celebration on Wednesday at 2:15pm - we will be doing some printing with you all in the hall (bring an apron if you can!)

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

Elm & Ash

Year 3 have continued developing their grammar skills in preparation for writing their own information texts. The children have worked hard to apply their learning by using accurate punctuation, improving their sentence structure and making thoughtful word choices to engage the reader.

In Maths, we have been exploring multiplication and division through grouping and arrays. The children have enjoyed using practical resources and pictorial representations to help them understand how numbers can be grouped equally and how multiplication and division are linked. Our Science lessons have focused on healthy diets and nutrition. We investigated the different food groups and discussed the important role each plays in keeping our bodies healthy. The children showed excellent understanding when explaining how a balanced diet helps us grow, stay active and remain healthy.

In Geography, we have been learning about volcanoes and investigating why people choose to live near them. The children explored both the advantages and disadvantages, discovering that volcanic areas can provide fertile soil for farming, valuable resources and opportunities for tourism despite the risks they pose.

Year 3 also took part in a Q&A with the famous author Andy Shephard. This was a great experience.

Well done Elm who are now 4-0 in the TTRockstar tournaments!

Mrs James, Miss Hall and Mr Dookheran

Beech & Pine

This week, we have been very excited to begin our new class text, *Inside the Villains*. In English, we explored the story of *The Seven Little Goats* from the wolf's perspective and wrote diary entries to consider how the story might look from a different point of view. We have also planned our own villains, ready to bring them to life during our class celebrations on Monday. The children shared some fantastic ideas and we can't wait to see their creations!

In Maths, we continued our work on measurement by carrying out a practical investigation into capacity, as well as exploring different methods using number bonds. In Science, we completed our digestion unit by investigating different types of animal poo! The children were fascinated by how much information it can reveal and enjoyed making predictions about which animals it belonged to. In PSHE, we explored acts of kindness and made personal pledges for ways we can show kindness to others next week.

We have had another wonderful week of learning and are very proud of all the children's hard work.

Mrs Wakefield, Miss Hardy and Miss Howick

Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper

Well done to all the children for their hard work this week. It has been a jam-packed week of work. We began our new English text *Gravenhunger* and listened to the first 4 chapters. We spoke about scene setting and how we can try and sell a decrepit manor to willing buyers. We looked at genuine house adverts from estate agents and cherrypicked language that they use in order to sell their catalogues. The children picked out words such as *top of the range*, *opportunity to acquire* and *picturesque* among others that they will use in their writing. In Maths, we have finished our Learning journey around short division and have practiced for fluency and used the method in context with real-life problems. The children have beautifully laid-out books and all gave it a good go. In RE, we looked at the significance of Bonfire Night and why we celebrate it. We compared it to last week's learning around Bandi Chhor Divas and their similarities and differences. We learned about the plot involving Guy Fawkes and King James 1 and the persecution Catholics faced in the 17th Century. Have a relaxing weekend and we'll see you all on Monday!

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

Hot Choc Friday!

Here are the delightful children who had 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' this Tuesday & Friday...



Parent/carer evenings

We are holding parent/carer consultations next week, on Tuesday 20th & Thursday 22nd October. We look forward to discussing your children's progress with you!

Forest School

Some beautiful misty autumnal mornings this week at forest school to enjoy...



We have been observing the changing colours in the trees and shrubs, using our favourites to make crowns: some very proud forest school kings and queens!



Children have also been making their own unique conker animals and jewellery and also building fairy homes and doing some wonderful performances on our stage area.

So much wonderful play has been noticed this week. The children are really relaxing into their outside space & showing great friendship and teamwork.



Next week we are planning on doing some more tool skills with the children with pumpkins (non-Halloween). If you would like to donate any pumpkins to Forest school for next week, we would be very grateful.



Mrs Burgess and Mrs Arnold



School Cleaner Required

We are looking for a reliable and hardworking Cleaner to join our school team. Duties include cleaning classrooms, corridors, toilets, and communal areas to maintain a safe and hygienic environment for students and staff.

- ✓ Reliable and punctual
- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Previous cleaning experience preferred but not essential

Hours are Monday to Friday 3.00pm to 6.00pm. Termtime only but flexibility will be required for deep cleans during the school holidays.

Rate of pay £13.07 an hour.

To apply, please contact the school and request an application pack from

recruitment@pilgrims-cross.co.uk

Music of the week

Music is one of the pleasures of life. My aim is to expose our pupils to a whole range of musical genres and styles over their time at Pilgrims' Cross.

This week, in Collective Worship the children have been listening to JS Bach's fantastic Brandenburg Concertos, played on period instruments by the Orchestra at the Age of Enlightenment. We identified the sound of the harpsichord, as well as wooden flutes. The musicians also played *so many* notes!

Why not re-listen at home?



Attendance

A huge thank you to all our children and families for their commitment to excellent attendance this term so far.

We are delighted to share that our current whole-school attendance is **97.2%**, which is **above the national average**. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the value our school community places on being in school every day, ready to learn.

Regular attendance helps children make the most of every learning opportunity, build strong friendships and develop positive routines. We know that maintaining such high attendance is a team effort, and we are grateful for the support of parents and carers, as well as the dedication of our staff and pupils.

Let's keep working together to ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed. Every day counts, and every minute matters! 🌟

Mrs Hathaway Familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Best Start Hub

Funded by UK Government

Your new Best Start Family Hub in Andover

Calling all parents and carers!

FREE opening day fun!

Tell your family and friends!

Your new Best Start Family Hub is opening at Spring Meadow on 29 October.

Discover a **free one-stop shop** of trusted information, advice and support to help you through your journey as a parent.

Come and chat with our friendly Hub Connector, who can signpost you to information, advice and support for families from pregnancy through to age 19, or up to age 25 for young people with SEND.

Whether it's health and wellbeing or childcare and education questions, you can find everything you need to support your child to have the best start in life.

Also part of the Best Start Family Hubs Network:

Andover Library
Chantry Centre,
Andover, SP10 1LT

Lots of activities for children and families.

Best Start Family Hub at Spring Meadow
Smannell Road,
Andover,
SP11 6JP
29 October 2026
2 to 5pm

Scan the QR code to learn more about Best Start Family Hubs, including locations, services and opening times.

I often have conversations with families who are struggling, need advice- or just a good chat and dose of reassurance that they're doing a good job...

A fabulous new resource is opening very soon in our area! The new Best Start Family Hub in Andover is officially launching on Thursday 29 October, from 14:00 to 17:00, at Spring Meadow Children's Centre. The Hub will see a joined-up approach from family support agencies and local partners to ensure the hubs reflect the needs of children, families and communities in Andover.

Whether it's health and wellbeing or childcare questions, you can find help, answers and support. Why not scan the QR and find out more?



Clubs

Please see below the clubs running next half term. Some are after school and some are at lunchtimes. The clubs will run from Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December. Most are free, except if there is a cost for materials. These are in addition to our regular clubs provided by Integr8, Active gymnastics and Stow Sports...

Sign-up is available on Arbor. **Please be considerate and only book one club per child**, so that as many children as possible can take advantage of this opportunity. If you book more than one, your child's name will be removed from the lists. Once the Club is full Arbor will not display this as a club to book on your child's Arbor account. Thank you!

Teacher	Club	Day	Time	Max number
Mrs Edgington	Stories and Scribbles Year 3,4,5 and 6 No Cost	Thursday	12.30 -1pm	20
Mrs Edgington	Singing For Fun Club Year 1,2,3 and 4 No Cost	Tuesday	12.30- 1pm	30
Mr Edgington	Girls Football Club Year 5 & 6 No Cost	Friday	3-4pm	20
Mr Edgington	Boys Football Club Year 5 & 6 No Cost	Thursday	3-4pm	20
Mr Hambidge	American Football Club Year 5&6 No Cost	Thursday	3-4pm	16
Miss Miners	Netball Club Year 4,5 & 6 No Cost	Monday	3-4pm	20
Mrs Treasure	Art Club £8 Year 3,4,5,6	Thursday	3-4pm	15

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

AGE RESTRICTION
4+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS

YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

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CENSORED

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING

Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

BUY NOW!

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED

YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.



AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION

There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.



DATA COLLECTION RISK

While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.



Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS

YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.



SET TIME LIMITS

The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.



CHECK WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.



WATCH TOGETHER

It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.



Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.06.2025

Key dates

- Monday 19th October – Individual school photographs
- Monday 19th October – Year 4 Class Celebration @ 8.45am
- Monday 19th October – Year 1 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Tuesday 20th October – Year 5/6 Class Celebration @ 8.45am
- Tuesday 20th October – Year R Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Tuesday 20th & Thursday 22nd October- parent/carers' evenings
- Wednesday 21st October – Year 3 class Celebration @ 8.45am
- Wednesday 21st October – Year 2 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Friday 23rd October 2026 - Inset Day 3
- Tuesday 3rd November - Firework Night
- Monday 16th November – Year 4 Trip to The Living Rainforest
- Wednesday 16th December- KS2 Christmas Service @ St. Mary's- 6.00pm
- Tuesday 20th July 2027 – Inset Day 4
- Wednesday 21st July 2027 – Inset Day 5

Please check out our website calendar for all relevant dates:

<https://www.pilgrimscross.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=8&viewid=1>

Book Fair

We will be Holding our School Book fair **On Parents evenings on the 20th and 22nd October** from 3pm till 6pm in the School Library.

We will have lots of lovely books for sale which will help earn books for our school.

You will be able to pay by cash, or by card though the QR code.

Please look out for the posters on your classroom doors for more information.

